# Union.

"LIBERTY, THE UNION, AND THE CONSTITUTION."

#### NUMBER 140

## CITY OF WASHINGTON, SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 12, 1850.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Star of the 9th inst. We regret that we are

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rems as to the whole internal structure of the vast animal from the phenomena of the hide. The comparison is unjust to the geologist, but might justly be applied to the mere theorizer in agriculture. Practice and theory should always go hand in hand—experience confirming the truth of theory, or exposing its errors. Before leaving this topic, I would recommend to this society to offer a special premium for a series of well-conducted experiments, with a view of testing the benefits of common salt as a manure. Salt is composed of chlorine and soda, which, it is found by analysis, enter into the composition of all, or nearly all crops. These constituent elements do not abound in most soils, and it is but reasonable to suppose that they may have become deficient in those soils which have been subjected to long and continued tillage. As a class of minerals, the chlorides or muriates are very soluble, this salt being always soluble in two and a half times its weight of water. Besides its properties as a fertilizer, it will destroy many insects hurtful to vegetation; and the avidity with which it imbibes moisture may be beneficial to crops in this dry climate. The bitterns of the salt manufactories contain the same elements, though in a much less degree, besides sulpiate and carbonate of lime, and other valuable fertilizers, and its application as a manure would, without doubt, be advantageous.

The science of political economy, in its bearings on agriculture, is a subject worthy of the attention of the farmer and mechanic. The relations between capital and labor, supply and demand, cost of production and market or exchangeable value, are intimately connected with the success and prosperity of those pursuits in which nearly four-fifths of our entire population are engaged. The natural price of any given product of labor is determined by the cost of its production. The market price is one dollar, the difference or profits will be 35 cents. The profits of the farmer will therefore depend not only on the market price, but

agriculture, one of the great errors of the day consists in laying down rules for general guidance founded upon mere theory, or even the successful results of a single experience. What may succeed admirably under certain circumstances may be highly injurious under other and different circumstances, and this is the reason why book farming with many has fallen into disreptive. Bishop Watson compared the geologist to a great mounted on an elephant, and laying down theory sems as to the whole internal structure of the vast animal from the phenomena of the hide. The comparison is unjust to the geologist, but might justly be applied to the mere theorizer in agriculture. Practice and theory

[Correspondence of the New York Commercial Advertise.]
The Suspension Bridge and Mattroad.
HAMILTON, Canada West, Sept. 30.

It has been mentioned in your paper that another sus-pension bridge is in progress over the Niagara. That I ound to be the case when I passed through Queenston onne days ago. I saw it in a very forward state, and in a few months it will be completed, and ready for the ac-commodation of the public. It is a work of great magni-ude, and from the systems we have of the success and

## POLITICAL.

The Public Lands In California,

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